

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Besides strengthening media ownership rules (the renewal process should require more than a return postcard!), the FCC needs to take action NOW to reprimand Sinclair for this totally outrageous action--using their stations' publicly-owned airwaves to broadcast anti-Kerry programming in the last moments before the election--and without airing "the other side"--either pro-Kerry programming, such as "Going Upriver" or anti-Bush programming, such as "Uncovered" or "Fahrenheit 911."

By the way, why is a large oil company allowed to own a string of stations in the first place?????